

0039-7260-2S



5/A
4/11/03
RECEIVED

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

APR -8 2004

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

IN RE APPLICATION OF :
Nobuo NAKAMURA, et al. : GROUP ART UNIT: 2615
SERIAL NO. 09/342,729 :
FILED: June 29, 1999 : EXAMINER: WISDAHL, ERIC D.
FOR: IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS
AND METHOD OF CONTROLLING
THE IMAGE PICKUP APPARATUS

RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT
AND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Official Action mailed March 7, 2003, Applicants elect without traverse Claims 1-6 directed to Species I (Figures 1 and 4). Applicants make this election based on the understanding that Applicants are not prejudiced against filing one or more divisional applications that cover the non-elected claims.

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 7-10 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add new Claims 11-12 as follows:

sub B1
A1
11. (New) An image pickup apparatus, comprising:
an array of unit cells arranged in rows and columns, each unit cell having a light-receiving device for receiving light and configured to generate an electric charge